

ADVOCACY ADVISORY

HB1618, blood and breath alcohol concentrations (Welch, Wyss) **will be heard Tuesday, March 27, 2001 in the Senate Public Policy Committee.** The Committee hearing will start **at 10:00 am in Statehouse Room 130***.

Advocates can:

1. **Contact members of the committees** asking for their support.
2. **Explain** why reducing the per se BAC level to .08 percent is good public policy.
3. Attend the hearing to demonstrate that the citizens of Indiana support a per se BAC level of .08 percent.

Tips on Contacting Legislators:

1. Contact the legislator when they return to their district, usually during the weekend, is best.
2. Be specific. Cite the bill number (HB1618 for the Senate Committee). Pick one or two facts – See below.
3. Be polite.

Senate Public Policy Committee membership:

Senators Tom Wyss (chair), Sam Smith (ranking minority member), Steve Johnson (ranking majority member), Ron Alting, Mark Blade, Billie Breaux, John Broden, Joe Harrison, Luke Kenley, Charles Meeks, Mike Young.

Senate Switchboard: (800) 382-9467 or (317) 232-9400

Senate Email Addresses: s(# of district)@ai.org. For example, Sen. Wyss' district is 5 and his email address is s5@ai.org.

ADVO-FACTS

- ✧ .08 is the level at which fatal crash risk significantly increases and virtually everyone is impaired, affecting critical driving skills including: braking, steering, lane changing, judgment, and response time.
- ✧ Statistics show that by lowering the per se limit from .10 percent to .08 percent, we can save 16 to 26 Hoosier lives each year.
- ✧ Illinois passed its .08 law in 1997. A recent study showed the average BAC of arrested drivers in that state dropped from .18 to .16. Police agencies reported only minor changes in their operations caused by this reduction in the per se law.
- ✧ Utah, Oregon and California report no statistical change in the per capita consumption of alcohol two years after implementation of their .08 percent BAC laws.

*Statehouse Room 130 is a bit tricky to find. You can contact Ms. Henegar or Ms. Thein for directions.

For More Information:

The Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving: www.state.in.us/cji or Lillian Henegar at (317) 232-1142

MADD: www.madd.org or Tina Thien at (317) 257-6252

National Highway & Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA): www.nhtsa.dot.gov